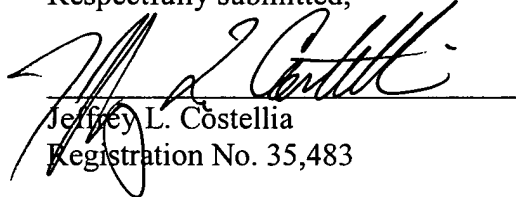


Claims 31-35, and 37-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter that is allegedly not described in the specification in a way to convey to one skilled in the art that the inventor had possession of the invention at the time of filing. More particularly, the Examiner alleged that the specification never discloses the aluminum nitride insulating film with a thickness of all the values of 5000 angstroms or less as recited in claims 31-35 and 37-42. Applicants have additionally amended claim 31 as shown above to specify that the aluminum nitride insulating film has a thickness of 100Å to 5000Å.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of record be reconsidered and withdrawn by the Examiner, that claims 2, 3, 6-8, 11, 12, 15-17, 19-35, 37-59, and new claims 60-67 be allowed and that the application be passed to issue.

If a conference would expedite prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,



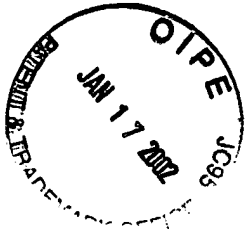
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**ATTACHMENT TO THE AMENDMENT**

31. (Amended) The device of claim 2 wherein said aluminum nitride insulating film has a thickness of 100 Å to 5000 Å or less.



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